



EDUC-SPECIALIST, SENIOR

CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK:

This is professional, educational, and administrative work in directing a specialized phase of a statewide educational program. Incumbents are responsible for planning, supervising, and coordinating various specialized educational programs carried on by the State Department of Education in cooperation with local school systems and the federal government. Administrative direction is received from an administrative superior.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

These minimum qualifications have been agreed upon by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in this job class and are based upon a job analysis and the essential functions. However, if a candidate believes he/she is qualified for the job although he/she does not have the minimum qualifications set forth below, he/she may request special consideration through substitution of related education and experience, demonstrating the ability to perform the essential functions of the position. Any request to substitute related education or experience for minimum qualifications must be addressed to the State Personnel Board in writing, identifying the related education and experience which demonstrates the candidate's ability to perform all essential functions of the position.

EXPERIENCE/EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Education:

A Master's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the area assigned by the agency;

AND

Experience:

Three (3) years of experience in professional education or closely related work, two (2) years of which must have been in a supervisory or consultative capacity in the field to which assigned.

OR

Education:

A Class "AA" Certification from the Department of Education in the area assigned by the agency;

AND

Experience:

Three (3) years of experience in professional education or closely related work, two (2) years of which must have been in a supervisory or consultative capacity in the field to which assigned.

OR

Education:

A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the area assigned by the agency;

AND

Experience:

Four (4) years of experience in professional education or closely related work, two (2) years of which must have been in a supervisory or consultative capacity in the field to which assigned.

OR

Education:

A Class "A" Certification from the Department of Education in the area assigned by the agency;

AND

Experience:

Four (4) years of experience in professional education or closely related work, two (2) years of which must have been in a supervisory or consultative capacity in the field to which assigned.

Required Documentation:

Applicant must attach a copy of his/her current Mississippi "AA" or "A" teaching certificate, whichever is applicable.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

These physical requirements are not exhaustive, and additional job related physical requirements may be added to these by individual agencies on an as needed basis. Corrective devices may be used to meet physical requirements. These are typical requirements; however, reasonable accommodations may be possible.

Light Work: May frequently walk or stand and/or frequently exert force equivalent to lifting up to approximately 10 pounds and/or occasionally exert force equivalent to lifting up to approximately 20 pounds.

Vision: Requires the ability to perceive the nature of objects by the eye.

Near Acuity: Clarity of vision at 20 inches or less.

Midrange: Clarity of vision at distances of more than 20 inches and less than 20 feet.

Far Acuity: Clarity of vision at 20 feet or more.

Ability to adjust focus: Ability to adjust the eye to bring an object into sharp focus.

Speaking/Hearing: Possesses the ability to give and receive information through speaking and listening skills.

Motor Coordination: While performing the duties of this job, the incumbent is frequently required to sit; walk; stand; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms. The incumbent is occasionally required to stoop, kneel, crouch, or bend.

COMPETENCIES:

The following competencies describe the knowledge, skills, abilities, and attributes that lead to a successful employee in this position. An applicant will be expected to exhibit these competencies or the ability to reach competency achievement within a specified time. These competencies are linked to the essential functions of the job. Employees in this position may be evaluated on these competencies as part of the performance appraisal system. Example behaviors are listed below each competency and are used for illustrative purposes only. Specific behaviors may be identified and included later by the hiring agency. It is understood that some of these behaviors might not be acquired until a reasonable time after hire. Failure of an employee to successfully demonstrate some or all of these competencies, as deemed important by his or her reporting official, may result in the employee being placed on a performance improvement plan. If after a reasonable period of time, usually three (3) months, the employee fails to demonstrate successful performance, the employee may be terminated. These competencies include, but are not limited to, the following:

PUBLIC SECTOR COMPETENCIES:

Integrity and Honesty: Demonstrates a sense of responsibility and commitment to the public trust through statements and actions.

Models and demonstrates high standards of integrity, trust, openness, and respect for others. Demonstrates integrity by honoring commitments and promises. Demonstrates integrity by maintaining necessary confidentiality.

Work Ethic: Is productive, diligent, conscientious, timely, and loyal.

Conscientiously abides by the rules, regulations, and procedures governing work.

Service Orientation: Demonstrates a commitment to quality public service through statements and actions.

Seeks to understand and meets and/or exceeds the needs and expectations of customers. Treats customers with respect, responding to requests in a professional manner, even in difficult circumstances. Provides accurate and timely service. Develops positive relationships with customers.

Accountability: Accepts responsibility for actions and results.

Is productive and carries fair share of the workload. Focuses on quality and expends the necessary time and effort to achieve goals. Demonstrates loyalty to the job and the agency and is a good steward of state assets. Steadfastly persists in overcoming obstacles and pushes self for results. Maintains necessary attention to detail to achieve high-level performance. Deals effectively with pressure and recovers quickly from setbacks. Takes ownership of tasks, performance standards, and mistakes. Has knowledge of how to perform one's job. Knows the organization's mission and functions and how it fits into state government.

Self Management Skills: Effectively manages emotions and impulses and maintains a positive attitude.

Encourages and facilitates cooperation, pride, trust, and group identity; fosters commitment and team spirit; works effectively and cooperatively with others to achieve goals. Treats all people with respect, courtesy, and consideration. Communicates effectively. Remains open to new ideas and approaches. Avoids conflicts of interest. Promotes cooperation and teamwork. Continuously evaluates and adapts; copes effectively with change. Allows self and others to make mistakes and learns from those mistakes. Adheres to high ethical standards.

Interpersonal Skills: Shows understanding, courtesy, tact, empathy, and concern to develop and maintain relationships.

Demonstrates cross cultural sensitivity and understanding. Identifies and seeks to solve problems and prevent or resolve conflict situations. Encourages others through positive reinforcement. Models appropriate behavior. Recognizes and develops potential in others; mentors.

Communication Skills: Receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and expresses information to individuals or groups effectively.

Receives other cues such as body language in ways that are appropriate to listeners and situations. Takes into account the audience and nature of the information; listens to others, attends to nonverbal cues, and responds appropriately. May make oral presentations. Communicates ideas, suggestions, and concerns, as well as outcomes and progress throughout the process of an activity. Provides thorough and accurate information.

Self-Development: Adapts behavior or work methods in response to new information, changing conditions, or unexpected obstacles.

Seeks efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills; uses training, feedback, or other opportunities for self-learning and development. Develops and enhances skills to adapt to changing organizational needs. Remains open to change and new information and ideas.

TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES:

Communication: Shares information in writing or verbally.

Concisely and correctly answers questions and/or explains or conveys information to the public, agency, co-workers, and other entities. Asks appropriate questions to gain information needed to assist the public or provide information to the public), agency personnel (e.g., personnel inside agency, outside agency, other state's agency personnel,), or other entities. Participates effectively in meetings, seminars, and training sessions. Presents oral and written information internally or externally using proper grammar, punctuation, and content. Appropriately documents information using tools such as: letters, e-mails, reports, memoranda, etc. Communicates information in a courteous manner without invoking anger. Knowledgeably refers issues to appropriate agency or other personnel. Interacts professionally both over the telephone and in person with all types of people under a wide array of stressful and working relationships.

Program Administration: Plans, supervises, and coordinates specialized educational programs in conjunction with the Department of Education and local school districts.

Develops or approves, in consultation with supervisors, procedures for consistent, effective, and efficient operation for specialized programs. Assists associates in establishing program objectives; implements plans, solves problems, ensures consistency, and coordinates programs to avoid duplication. Directs the preparation of records, reports, and budgets for the efficient functioning of the program. Directs personnel in surveying needs of population served by the specialized programs; directs the evaluation of programs and recommends program changes indicated by results.

Public Relations: Works to develop public understanding and acceptance of the programs that are supported by the Department of Education.

Serves as major public contact for information regarding the specialized program; prepares or directs the preparation of information regarding specialized programs. Maintains close contact with organizations and societies concerned with public education. Collects and compiles research information and findings; writes brochures and articles and prepares exhibits on specialized programs and activities.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Additional essential functions may be identified and included by the hiring agency. The essential functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Develops, plans, and supervises technical assistance to implement specialized programs.
2. Analyzes problems and educational needs of population served by specialized programs.
3. Plans, supervises, and coordinates specialized educational programs with local school systems and the federal government.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Examples of work performed in this classification include, but are not limited to, the following:

Develops or approves, in consultation with supervisors, procedures for consistent, effective, and efficient operation for specialized programs.

Assists associates in establishing program objectives; implements plans, solves problems, ensures consistency, and coordinates programs to avoid duplication.

Directs the preparation of records, reports, and budgets for the efficient functioning of the program.

Directs personnel in surveying needs of population served by the specialized programs; directs the evaluation of programs and recommends program changes indicated by results.

Travels extensively in own vehicle with frequent overnight stays.

Serves as major public contact for information regarding the specialized program; prepares or directs the preparation of information regarding specialized programs.

Supervises the organization of workshops in specific curriculum specialties and instructional methods.

Represents the division at professional organization meetings; serves on study groups, task forces, or survey and accreditation teams in area of expertise.

Maintains close contact with organizations and societies concerned with public education.

Collects and compiles research information and findings; writes brochures, grants, contracts, and articles and prepares exhibits on specialized programs and activities.

Prepares and maintains records, reports, and budgets for the efficient functioning of the grant program.

Performs related or similar duties as required or assigned.

INTERVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

Any candidate who is called to an agency for an interview must notify the interviewing agency in writing of any reasonable accommodation needed prior to the date of the interview.